Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 01165.0932

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re A | Application of:                |                     | <b>X</b> 3 |
|---------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Hirohu  | ımi IWASAKI et al.             |                     | <b>///</b> |
| Applic  | ation No.: Not Yet Assigned    | Group Art Unit: TBA |            |
| Filed:  | December 29, 2004              | Examiner: TBA       |            |
| For:    | NONWOVEN FABRIC AND<br>TEA BAG |                     |            |

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language. English-language abstracts are provided.

- 1. Japanese Patent No. 6-181699.
- 2. Japanese Patent No. 7-136066.

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- 3. Japanese Patent No. 6-189853.
- 4. Japanese Patent No. 11-43855.
- 5. Japanese Patent No. 11-107153.
- 6. Japanese Patent No. 9-105075.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

10/519788 DT12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 2 9 DEC 2004

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 29, 2004

Ernest F. Chapmen Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures EFC/FPD/cma

| ID9 Form PT0/SB/08: Substitute for form       |                        |    | <u>-</u> | c ete if Kno 1 / 51978   |                         |  |  |
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|   |                        |    |          | Application Number TBA : |                         |  |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT |                        |    | IRE      | Filing Date              | December 29, 2004       |  |  |
|   |                        |    |          | First Named Inventor     | Hirohumi IWASAKI et al. |  |  |
| 017   | STATEMENT BY APPLICANT |    |          | Art Unit                 | ТВА                     |  |  |
| (Use as many sheets as necessary)             |                        |    |          | Examiner Name            | TBA                     |  |  |
| Sheet   | 1                      | of | 1        | Attorney Docket Number   | 01165.0932              |  |  |

| Examiner<br>Initials | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number  | Issue or                       | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                      |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY |  |   |
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |  |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials     | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | Translation <sup>6</sup> |  |
|                          |                          | JP 6-181688  | 07-05-1994                     | Wataru NISHIBAYASHI et al.                         |  | Abstract                 |  |
|                          |                          | JP 7-136066  | 05-30-1995                     | Hirobumi IWASAKI et al.                            |  | Abstract                 |  |
|                          |                          | JP 6-189853  | 07-12-1994                     | Hiroshi KITAMURA et al.                            |  | Abstract                 |  |
|                          |                          | JP 11-43855  | 02-16-1999                     | Takeo MATSUOKA et al.                              |  | Abstract                 |  |
|                          |                          | JP 11-107153   | 04-20-1999                     | Takeshi CHIZUKA et al.                             |  | Abstract                 |  |
|                          |                          | JP 9-105075  | 04-22-1997                     | Masahiko YOSHIKOSHI et al.                         |  | Abstract                 |  |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |  |  |             |  |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.